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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

PATENT
12839/1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MAR 23 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Applicants : Alexandre MARTI et al.
Serial No. : 09/673,817
Filed : April 22, 1999
Title : SOLUTION FOR DIAGNOSING OR TREATING
TISSUE PATHOLOGIES
Art Unit : 1617
Examiner : S. J. Sharareh

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO JULY 25, 2003 OFFICE ACTION

SIR:

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on July 25, 2003. A petition for a three-month extension of time from October 25, 2003 to January 25, 2004 is being concurrently submitted with authorization to charge the extension fee to deposit account no. 11-0600. Under 37 C.F.R. §1.7 when the day for taking any action or paying any fee in the U.S.P.T.O. falls on a Saturday, Sunday or on a Federal holiday within the District of Columbia, the action may be taken on the next succeeding business day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or on a Federal holiday. Accordingly, Applicants are timely submitting this amendment on Monday, January 26, 2004. Applicants respectfully request entry of the present Amendment in the above-identified case.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Express Mail NO. EV 32181761US